

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Hironao MINATO

U.S. Application No. -----

Filed: January 16, 2004

: Confirmation No. -----

: Group Art Unit: 3761

: Examiner: K. Reichle

For: DISPOSABLE DIAPER HAVING A MECHANICAL FASTENING SYSTEM (*as amended*)INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the documents listed on the attached form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that the documents be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the documents be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months after the U.S. filing date or before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. No certification or fee is required.

The references were cited by or submitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in *Parent Application No. 09/259,687, filed March 1, 1999*, which is relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 USC 120. Thus copies of these references are not attached (37 CFR 1.98 (d)).

Respectfully submitted,

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<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION</b>  <b>(PTO-1449)</b>		ATTY. DOCKET NO. <b>2038-224A</b>		U.S. PATENT APPLICATION NO. -----		
		APPLICANT <b>Hironao MINATO</b>				
		FILING DATE <b>January 16, 2004</b>		GROUP <b>3761</b>		
		<b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>				
EXAMINER'S INITIALS	PATENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE
	4 959 265	09-1990	Wood <i>et al.</i>			
	5 221 270	06-1993	Parker			
	5 288 546	02-1994	Roessler, <i>et al.</i>			
	5 383 872	01-1995	Roessler, <i>et al.</i>			
	5 476 702	12-1995	Datta <i>et al.</i>			
	5 636 414	06-1997	Litchholt			
	5 660 659	08-1997	Caldwell			
	6 210 390	04-2001	Karlsson			
	RE 26,151	01-1967	Duncan <i>et al.</i>			
	3 776 234	12-1973	Hoey			
	4 985 025	01-1991	Lingerlat <i>et al.</i>			
	6 363 557	04-2002	Chou			
	6 393 673	05-2002	Kourtidis <i>et al.</i>			
	3 885 566	05-1975	Jacob			
	4 436 520	03-1984	Lipko			
	4 376 147	03-1983	Byrne <i>et al.</i>			
	5 399 177	03-1995	Blaney <i>et al.</i>			
	5 961 761	10-1999	Heindel <i>et al.</i>			
	5 603 145	02-1997	Arakawa <i>et al.</i>			
	5 611 789	03-1997	Seth			
	5 691 027	11-1997	Eckhardt <i>et al.</i>			
	6 419 667	07-2002	Avalon <i>et al.</i>			
	6 428 525	08-2002	Malowaniec			
	6 524 294	02-2003	Hilston <i>et al.</i>			
<b>FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>						
EXAMINER'S INITIALS	PATENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	Translation
						Yes
	894 448	02-1999	Europe			
	0 832 573	04-1998	Europe			
	0 418 954	03-1991	Europe			
	0 756 855	02-1997	Europe			
	296 22 981	10-1997	Germany			
	98/29081	07-1998	PCT			
	2 624 353 A1	06-1989	France			

<b>OTHER ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)</b>	
EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.